

amended Claim 1 to address Examiner's concerns, and respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

The Examiner has also requested that the Applicants fill in the application numbers in the Cross Reference to Related Application on page 1. Applicants have amended the specification to comply with the Examiner's request, and respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Double Patenting

Claim 1 and Claims 10-14 are provisionally rejected under the judicially-created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claim 1 of copending Application No. 09/625913. A terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321 (c) accompanies the present amendment. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 USC 102

Claims 1-5, 12-16, 18, 20, and 21 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(a) as being anticipated by Maxwell et al. (US Patent No. 5, 675,784). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants submit that Claim 1, as amended, is novel and therefore not anticipated by Maxwell. Maxwell does not teach storing both a manufacturer SKU and a customer SKU. For instance, the customer SKU may be associated with a customer for which the product data is being captured and stored for subsequent distribution to the customer. Rather, Maxwell describes a single SKU as typically used to identify a product. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 1 is allowable as amended. As Claims 2-21 are dependent upon Claim 1, Applicants submit that these claims are also allowable.

The dependent claims further recite additional limitations that are not further disclosed in Maxwell. For example, with respect to claims 2 and 3, the Examiner refers to col. 6, lines 15-18 and lines 45-48. However, the cited portions of Maxwell neither discloses nor suggests a data entry template including a listing of potential values. Similarly, with respect to claim 15, Applicant was unable to find a reference to a possible value list associated with each attribute that identifies values that are selectable as values for the associated attribute, where each of the attributes has at least one of the values in the associated possible value list. Rather col. 7, lines 60-67

of Maxwell appear to indicate that the data structure may store values, not that such values may be selected from a possible value list. Similarly, with respect to claim 5, Maxwell neither discloses nor suggests a possible unit list associated with each attribute.

In addition, with respect to claims 12-16, although col. 5, lines 30-42 and 53-55 of Maxwell disclose defining a group for “similar kinds of components” and groups similar types of products, such as “hardware” and “computer systems,” Maxwell neither discloses nor suggests linking to or identifying one or more related products that are recommended as related to the product as recited in claims 12 and 20. Similarly, Maxwell neither discloses nor suggests linking to platform compatibility information associated with a product, as recited in claim 13.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claims 1-5, 12-16, 18, 20 and 21 are allowable, and not anticipated by Maxwell. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection under 35 USC 102(a).

Rejections Under 35 USC 103

Claims 6-11, 17 and 19 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maxwell et al. (US Patent No. 5,675,784), further in view of Blinn et al. (US Patent No. 5,999,914). The rejection is respectfully traversed. Applicants submit that the claims of the instant invention are non-obvious and patentable over the claims of the cited art.

As set forth above, Maxwell neither discloses capturing and storing product data including both a manufacturer SKU and a customer SKU. Blinn fails to cure the deficiencies of the primary reference. With respect to Claims 10 and 19, Applicants submit that neither Blinn nor Maxwell disclose or suggest specifying one or more countries for which the product is adapted for sale. Similarly, with respect to Claim 11, the cited art neither discloses nor suggests providing one or more possible countries that are selectable as countries for which the product is adapted for sale. Although the Examiner cites col. 10, lines 65-67, this indicates that the messages value identifies the language used for error messages, rather than identifying a country for which a product is adapted for sale.

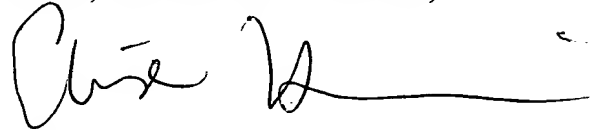
Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claims 6-11, 17 and 19 are non-obvious and patentable over Maxwell and Blinn. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection under USC 103.

Conclusion

The Applicants respectfully maintain that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance for this Application from the Examiner. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

BEYER, WEAVER & THOMAS, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elise R. Heilbrunn', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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APPENDIX I

MARKED-UP COPIES OF AMENDED SPECIFICATION AND CLAIMS

The paragraph under the heading “CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS” has been amended as follows:

This application is related to Docket No. GDT1P001, U.S. Application No. 09/626,347 filed on the same day, and entitled “METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR CATALOG DATA CAPTURE, STORAGE, AND DISTRIBUTION”, Docket No. GDT1P002, U.S. Application No. 09/625,913 filed on the same day, and entitled “METHODS OF CATALOG DATA MAINTENANCE, STORAGE, AND DISTRIBUTION”, and Docket No. GDT1P003, U.S. Application No. 09/626,090 filed on the same day, and entitled “METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR IMPLEMENTING A MULTI-LINGUAL CATALOG SYSTEM”.

Claim 1 has been amended as follows:

1. (amended) A method of capturing [distributing] data for use in a catalog, comprising:

capturing product data for a product according to a data model, the data model having one or more classes, each one of the one or more classes being defined by one or more categories, each of the one or more categories being defined by an attribute group having one or more attributes; and

storing the product data, the product data including both a manufacturer SKU that identifies the product and a customer SKU that identifies the product, wherein the stored product data is suitable for use in an electronic catalog.

APPENDIX II

CLEAN VERSION OF AMENDED SPECIFICATION AND CLAIMS

The paragraph under the heading “CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS” as follows:

This application is related to Docket No. GDT1P001, U.S. Application No. 09/626,347 filed on the same day, and entitled “METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR CATALOG DATA CAPTURE, STORAGE, AND DISTRIBUTION”, Docket No. GDT1P002, U.S. Application No. 09/625,913 filed on the same day, and entitled “METHODS OF CATALOG DATA MAINTENANCE, STORAGE, AND DISTRIBUTION”, and Docket No. GDT1P003, U.S. Application No. 09/626,090 filed on the same day, and entitled “METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR IMPLEMENTING A MULTI-LINGUAL CATALOG SYSTEM”.

Claim 1:

1. (amended) A method of capturing data for use in a catalog, comprising:

capturing product data for a product according to a data model, the data model having one or more classes, each one of the one or more classes being defined by one or more categories, each of the one or more categories being defined by an attribute group having one or more attributes; and

storing the product data, the product data including both a manufacturer SKU that identifies the product and a customer SKU that identifies the product, wherein the stored product data is suitable for use in an electronic catalog.